Avian flu in the country

50. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of Avian flu in the country and whether it is still entrenched in our country;

(b) whether Government has worked out some intensive action plan to control outbreaks of this menace in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Our breaks of Avian Influenza in poultry were notified in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra and Surat district of Gujarat [February, 2006] in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra and Bruhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh [March-April, 2006], in Chingmeirong in East Imphal district of Manipur [July, 2007], in 15 districts of West Bengal [January – May, 2008] and in two districts of Tripura [April, 2008]. The last incidence of Avian Influenza was notified on 16th May, 2008 in West Bengal, after which there has been no further outbreak of the disease. There has been no human case of Avian Influenza.

(b) and (c) The Government has action plan for preparedness, control and containment both for Health and Animal Husbandry sector which were put in to operation during the above mentioned outbreaks. The action plan details activities to be undertaken (i) in the preparedness stage (ii) steps to be taken in case of suspicion of outbreak among poultry (iii) containment activities for stamping out the infection in poultry once Avian Influenza is detected (iv) Surveillance of human population in the affected areas (v) management of human cases (vi) raising awareness in the community.

Quota of rationed items for Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

51. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received demands from Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh to increase quota for rationed items under PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years a long with allocated quota; and

(c) what action Government has taken on the demands from these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The commodity-wise details of requests received and action taken thereon are as under:

Food grains: Requests have been received from Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) and Chhattisgarh for increase in Above Poverty Line (APL) allocations under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Considering the requests of these State Governments, the Government has allocated